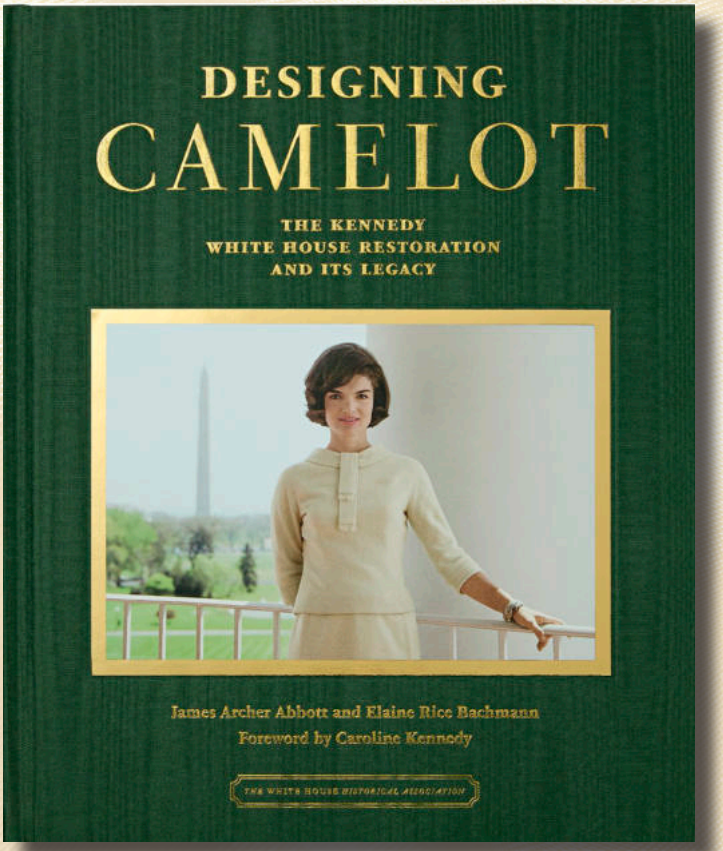
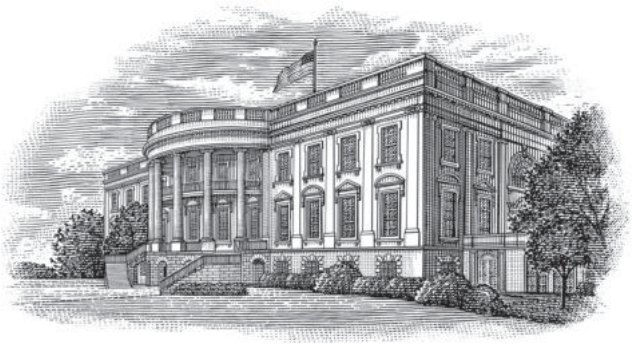
Books in Print

SPRING 2022



THE WHITE HOUSE *HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION*

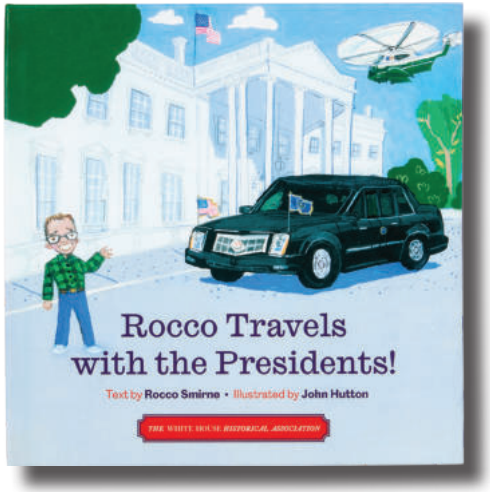


THE WHITE HOUSE
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

The White House Historical Association published its first book, *The White House: An Historic Guide*, in 1962. It was the wish of First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy that such a book be written, and she participated actively in the editing. For nearly sixty years, the Association has continued to produce award-winning books on a wide range of subjects related to the history of the President's House, from its architecture, gardens, fine and decorative arts to the presidents and first ladies who lived there over the years. Our list includes titles that will appeal to history buffs and art lovers, connoisseurs and curious amateurs, scholars and tourists, adults and children. All proceeds from the sale of the Association's books and products are used to fund the acquisition of historic furnishings and artwork for the permanent White House Collection, assist in the preservation of public rooms, and further its educational mission.

TO ORDER: VISIT SHOP.WHITEHOUSEHISTORY.ORG

Every president of the United States has to travel to attend important events and to meet people around the world. For more than two hundred years, the presidents have taken journeys on horses, trains, ships, cars, airplanes, and helicopters. Sometimes, just for fun, they have also used bicycles, golf carts, and even parachutes!



Sometimes presidents go to a camp called Camp David for the weekend or a holiday or an important meeting. President Jimmy Carter liked to ride his bicycle there. I like to ride bikes too. Look! No training wheels!

Rocco Travels with the Presidents!

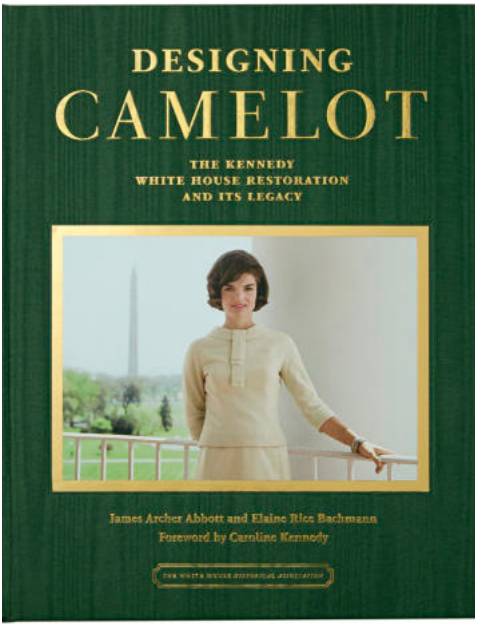
Illustrated by John Hutton
Text by Rocco Smirne

Rocco is just six years old, but he already knows a great deal about the White House and the presidents and the places he would like to go too, so he created this book to share some of the adventures he would have if he could travel with the presidents!

The president flies to many places. I would like to go to France, England, and China on *Air Force One* with President Bill Clinton! Bon Voyage!

24 pages • Casebound • 8.25" square • #1856 • $9.95

QUESTIONS? *Contact* Books@Whha.org



On February 23, 1961, Jacqueline Kennedy launched the most historic and celebrated redesign of the White House in its history. The White House announced Mrs. Kennedy's plan to locate and acquire the finest period furniture, with which the historical integrity of the Executive Mansion's interiors would be restored. Thanks to the vision of the young first lady, who was determined to make her new home the most perfect house in the United States, a committee was formed, a law was passed, donations were sought, a nonprofit partner was chartered, and an inalienable museum-quality collection that would belong to the nation was born.

Designing Camelot

The Kennedy White House Restoration and its Legacy

by James Archer Abbott and Elaine Rice Bachmann

Foreword by Caroline Kennedy

This volume celebrates the sixty-year legacy of one of the most influential interior design projects in American history. First-person reflections, personal and public correspondence, media accounts, and photographs are included with detailed room-by-room analyses of the restoration, anecdotes about the people involved, and insights into the decisions made by Mrs. Kennedy.

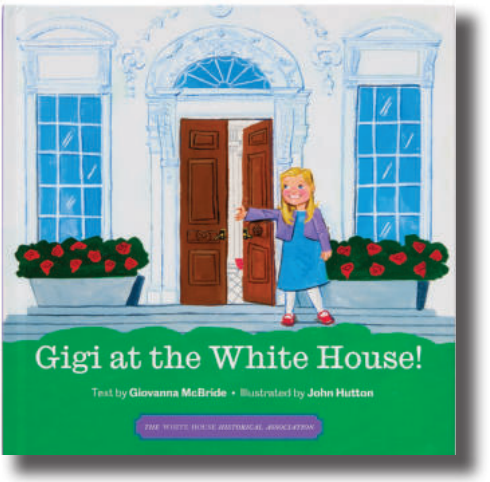
My mother shared my father's belief that American civilization had come of age, and she was eager to show the very best of our art and culture to the world. So she transformed the White House into one of the nation's most important museums of American art, decorative arts, and history, and created a stage for the greatest performing artists of the day.

— CAROLINE KENNEDY

392 pages • Casebound • 9" x 11" • #1840 • $65

QUESTIONS? *Contact* BOOKS@WHHA.ORG

Many children have at least one special opportunity to visit their parents at work, and this was true for Gigi McBride whose mother had a very unique job—she worked at the White House. During the George W. Bush administration, Gigi had many adventures visiting her mother Anita McBride, Chief of Staff to First Lady Laura Bush. Now that she is a college student with a love of children's literature, she decided to share her special memories of her visits to the White House, including exploring the White House at the Easter Egg Roll. Fourth of July, Halloween, and Christmas, and the friends that she made, including First Lady Laura Bush, the Secret Service, the White House Pastry Chefs, and the White House florist.



Gigi at the White House!

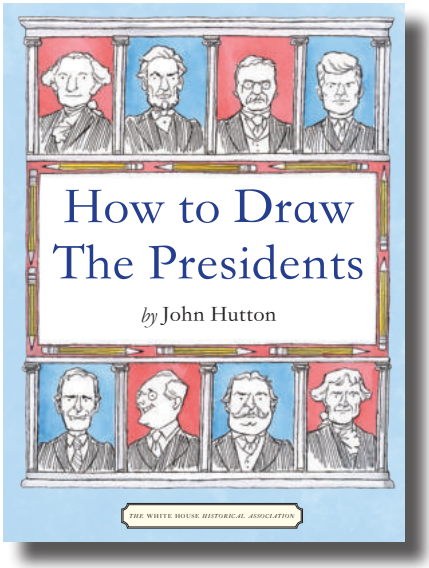
by Giovanna McBride
Illustrated by John Hutton

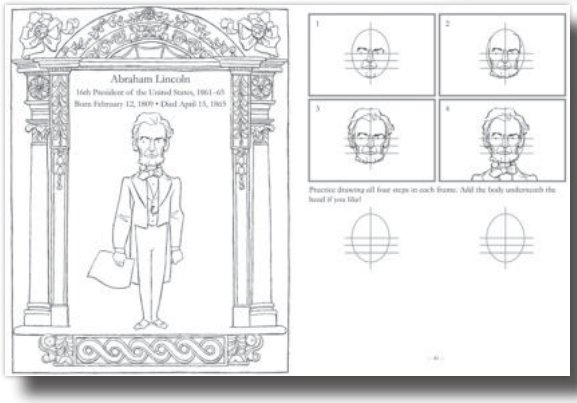
Summer Picnics
I rode merry-go-round horses and real horses at the special picnic for members of Congress!
The Fourth of July
There is no place more fun than the White House Lawn for watching fireworks.

24 pages • Casebound • 8.25" square • #1827 • $9.95

TO ORDER: VISIT SHOP.WHITEHOUSEHISTORY.ORG

The presidents of the United States of America have always been a popular subject for American artists. Official presidential portraits line the walls of the White House, reminding all of their esteemed subjects. In this unique and fun new book, award-winning illustrator John Hutton offers step-by-step lessons for aspiring artists of all ages to draw the presidents—you can try drawing each president right on the page of the book, looking to the facing page for guidance.




Abraham Lincoln
16th President of the United States, 1861–65
Born February 12, 1809 • Died April 15, 1865
Practice drawing all four steps in each frame. Add the body underneath the head if you like!

How to Draw The Presidents

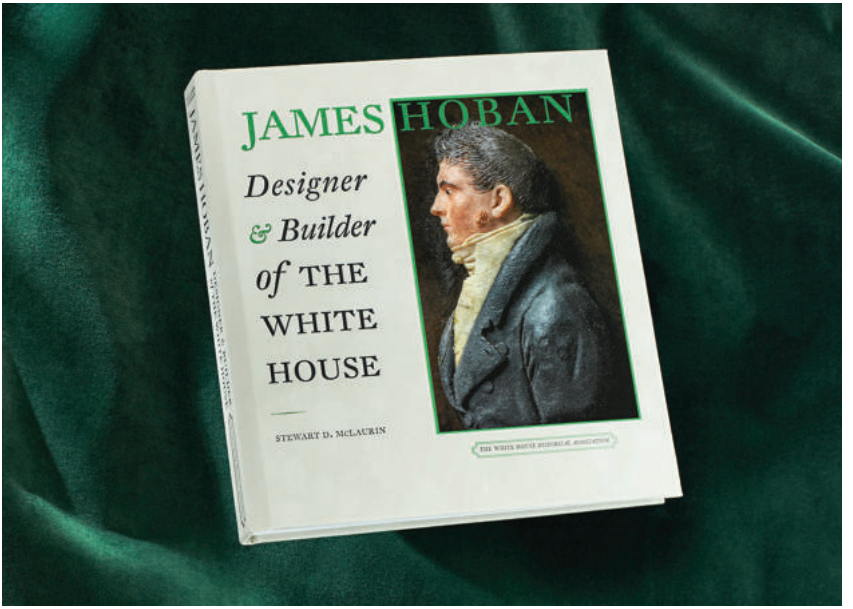
by John Hutton

Anyone can learn to draw. Drawing is simply another form of looking. . . . The trick is in learning to look very carefully, and to know what to look carefully for. Drawing is translating the world into a pattern of lines and tone. With each new line drawn a shape takes form, and before you know it, you have a complete drawing!

—JOHN HUTTON

112 pages • Layflat Binding • 9" x 12" • #1527 • $19.95

QUESTIONS? *Contact* BOOKS@WHHA.ORG



8

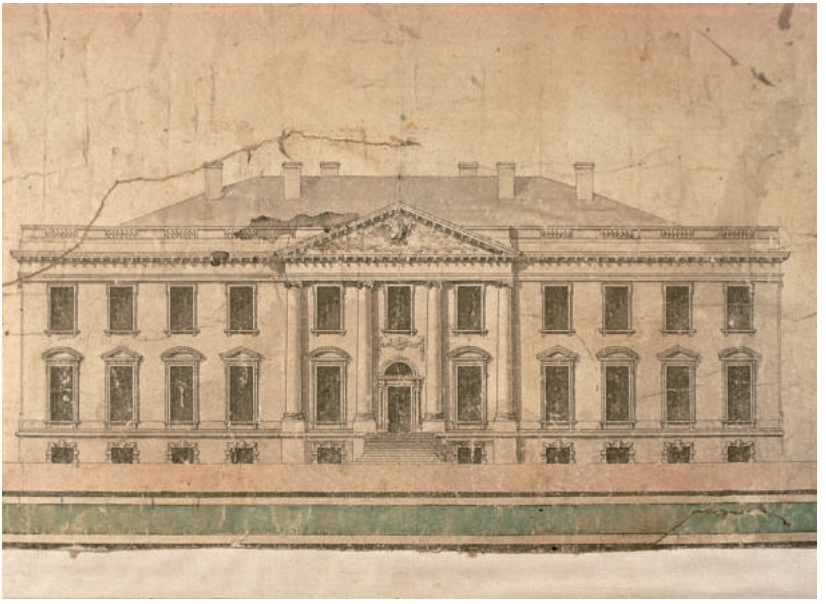
James Hoban

Designer and Builder of the White House

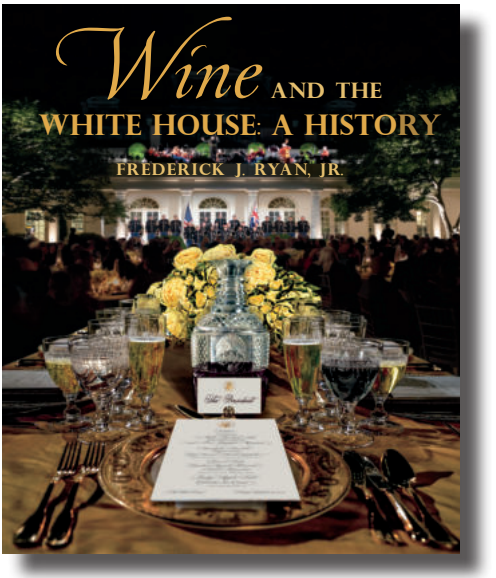
by Stewart D. McLaurin

When considering the design of the President's House yet to be built in the emerging Federal City of Washington, President George Washington asked after a young Irish builder he had learned of while visting in Charleston, South Carolina. Soon James Hoban appeared in Washington's Philadelphia office with his credentials. By 1792, Hoban was at work on the building site, having won the competition for the design of the President's House. Washington had placed him in charge of the entire project, with all carpentry, stonemasonry, and brickwork under his supervision. The resulting structure, accomplished in time for President John Adams to take residence in November 1800, fulfilled Washington's vision

and is today one of the most recognizable landmarks in the world. Yet of the millions of people who know the White House are likely to find Hoban's work more memorable than his name. With this anthology, the world's most knowledgeable scholars on James Hoban introduce us to him, presenting the story of his life, influences, and work. The essays are followed by an illustrated catalog of nearly 100 images of historic Dublin, Irish Country Houses, the White House, and sites known to James Hoban in America.



212 pages • Casebound • 9.25" x 10.25" • #1763 • $49.95



Wine and the White House

A History

by Frederick J. Ryan, Jr.

Winner of eleven national book awards, *Wine and the White House* is a comprehensive journey through the history of White House hospitality that explores every president's experience of wine. The fully illustrated pages also feature memorable presidential toasts, menus from historic White House gatherings, a catalog of vintages served, and spectacular new photography of the White House glassware collection. Early presidents recognized the important function wine played in entertaining at the White House. While some appreciated and enjoyed wine, others considered it merely a ceremonial necessity. Still others campaigned to outlaw wine and banned it from the White House; their successors celebrated its return.

Beautifully produced, generously illustrated, and full of information . . . something to dip into and enjoy. . . . You can pretty much open any page at random and find something you are happy to look at or read.

—WINE ECONOMIST

456 pages • Casebound with Dust Jacket • 9" x 11" • #1699 • $55

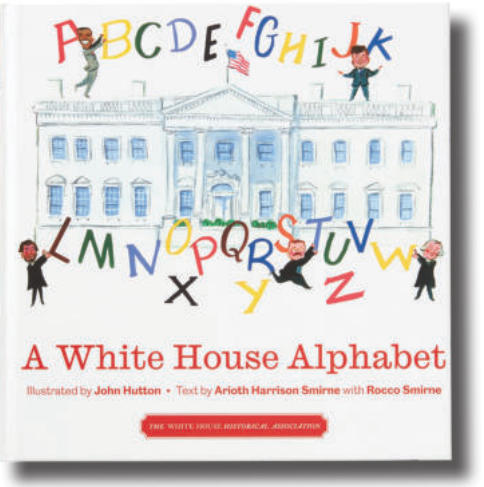
TO ORDER: VISIT SHOP.WHITEHOUSEHISTORY.ORG

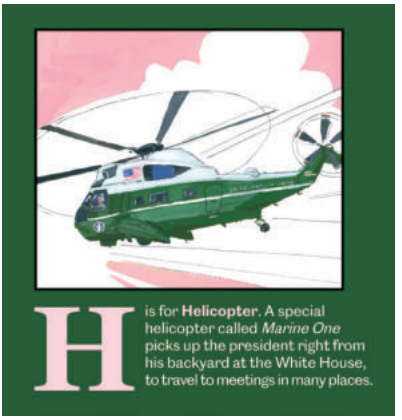
History buffs will feast their eyes on the rare historic ephemera and vintage photographs. Menu cards, bills of sale, vintage bottles, labels, and handwritten notes from White House wine specialists (and even some Presidents) are woven throughout the pages. Lush new photography chronicles the White House collection of glassware . . . Wine and the White House *serves up a lesson in good taste and delicate diplomacy. Ryan skillfully demonstrates that a glass of fine wine is worth every sip.*

—HUDSON VALLEY WINE

What Do You Drink When You're the President? From "Madeira Man" George Washington to JFK's obsession with James Bond–approved Champagne, Wine and the White House *reveals 1600 Pennsylvania pours of lore, told by an author who was there.*—WINE SPECTATOR

The White House has served as the home and office of the President of the United States for more than two hundred years. Its history fills thousands of books, but the best place for children to start to learn about the President's House is with the twenty-six letters of the alphabet. They'll find every letter here from A to Z.

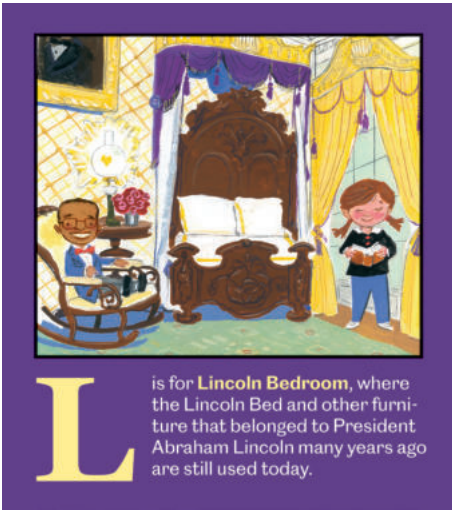



H is for Helicopter. A special helicopter called Marine One picks up the president right from his backyard at the White House, to travel to meetings in many places.

A White House Alphabet

Illustrated by John Hutton
Text by Arioth Harrison Smirne and Rocco Smirne

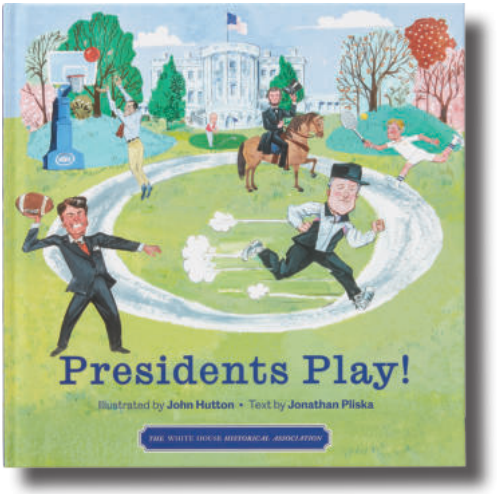
*Five-year-old Rocco Smirne, who learned his ABCs during the COVID lockdown, and his mother Arioth Harrison Smirne created this book to share a story for each letter as they take a tour that leads them from the State Rooms, to the Queens' Bedroom, the Oval Office, and Rocco's favorite picture—*Marine One, *the helicopter representing the letter H.*


L is for Lincoln Bedroom, where the Lincoln Bed and other furniture that belonged to President Abraham Lincoln many years ago are still used today.

24 pages • Casebound • 8.25" square • #1697 • $9.95

TO ORDER: VISIT SHOP.WHITEHOUSEHISTORY.ORG

The president works very hard in the White House, but this big house and its yard provide a special place to take a break for exercise too. Running, swimming, basketball, tennis, sailing, fishing, golf, and even Hoover Ball are just a few of the activities that the presidents enjoy as a break from their hard work at the White House. In this book by Jonathan Pliska, author of *The White House Easter Egg Roll*, children will learn that President John F. Kennedy had a passion for sailing while President William Taft was honored to throw the first pitch out at the Washington Nationals baseball game and whether there is a president who shared their favorite sport, game, or exercise to play or to watch.

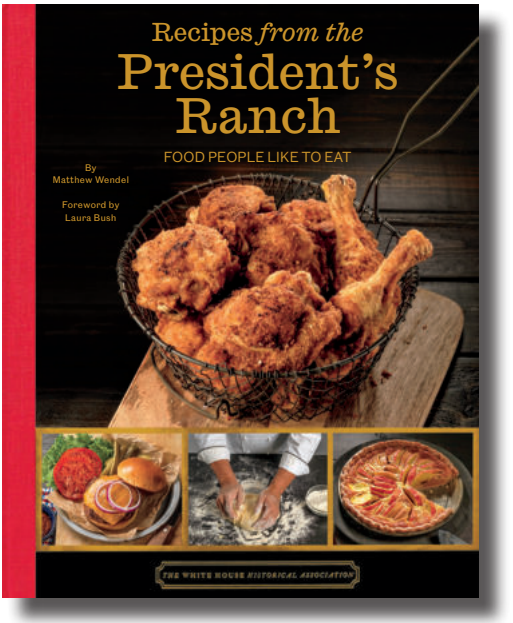


Presidents Play!

Illustrated by John Hutton
Text by Jonathan Pliska

24 pages • Casebound • 8.25" square • #1698 • $9.95

With this unique story of how a small-town boy with no professional culinary training ended up cooking for the president of the United States, Chef Matthew Wendel provides a first-hand account of his years working for President George W. Bush and his family at Camp David and at their Texas home on Prairie Chapel Ranch. He offers a collection of recipes, photographs, stories, and memories of daily life as senior advance representative in the Office of Presidential Advance and as the personal chef and personal assistant to the president.



Included with powerful descriptions of the smell of the author's signature hot cinnamon rolls and fried chicken are the Bush family's favorite dishes, meals that world leaders were served, and a behind-the-scenes look at how he prepared for head of state visits and shopped for the first family. Smoked beef tenderloin, stacked enchiladas, hot rolls, soups, and plenty of fresh salads were staples for the Bushes, but cheeseburgers became a tradition for their luncheons with world leaders at Prairie Chapel Ranch. Included among dozens of recipes for the Bushes' favorite dishes and the White House shopping lists are stories of singing *Ave Maria* accompanied by a Mariachi band at Jenna Bush's wedding, sharing barbeque techniques with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, and listening to British Prime Minister Tony Blair play guitar after a dinner at the ranch.

A delightful, charming and nonpolitical glimpse at what is was like to cook for the most powerful man in the world, his family, and the world leaders who visited him. — THE BUZZ

This book tells my story and shares favorite recipes—those I like to prepare, and the Bush family liked to eat. They're not hard to make, and I hope you will enjoy them, too.

— MATTHEW WENDEL

Recipes from the President's Ranch

Food People Like to Eat

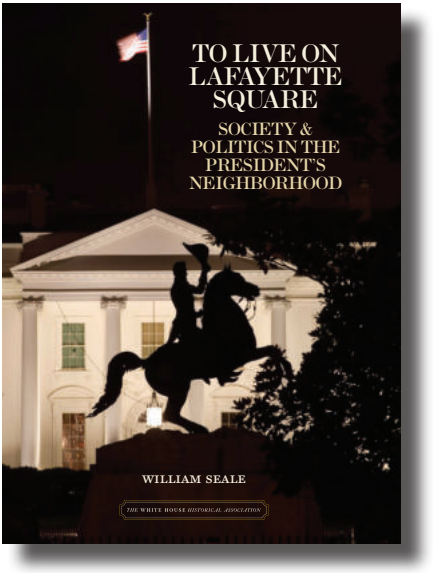
by Matthew Wendel

One of the most compelling recipes in the book is the Sweet and Smoky Cheeseburger. The four-ingredient recipe . . . inspired the phrase "cheeseburger diplomacy"

— BLOOMBERG LUNCHBREAK

180 pages • Casebound • 9" x 11" • #1668 • $45

QUESTIONS? *Contact* Books@Whha.org


TO LIVE ON LAFAYETTE SQUARE
SOCIETY & POLITICS IN THE PRESIDENT'S NEIGHBORHOOD
WILLIAM SEALE
THE WHITE HOUSE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

To Live on Lafayette Square

Society and Politics in the President's Neighborhood

by William Seale

Lafayette Square, just across Pennsylvania Avenue from the White House, was once the most fashionable neighborhood in Washington. In its row houses and freestanding mansions lived cabinet secretaries, members of Congress, and such memorable characters in the history of the nation as the naval hero Commodore Stephen Decatur and the legendary first lady, Dolley Madison. Presidents casually walked across the park in the middle of the Square to visit and talk politics, and residents of the Square welcomed prominent politicians and diplomats to their parties. As in any neighborhood, there were friendships and romances, secrets and scandals, and many kindnesses. At the beginning of the twentieth century the neighborhood began to change. The old houses were allocated to commercial uses and government offices, and plans were in the works to demolish them all until, in the early 1960s, President and Mrs. John F. Kennedy, new residents in the White House, prevailed with a plan to preserve them. Today, Lafayette Square stands alone in retaining the feel of an old residential neighborhood in the heart of the city. Historian William Seale re-creates what it felt like to live across from the White House and the ways in which political leaders and their families were in daily communication. This account brings an appreciation of the Square that at the same time enriches understanding of the nation's social and political culture.

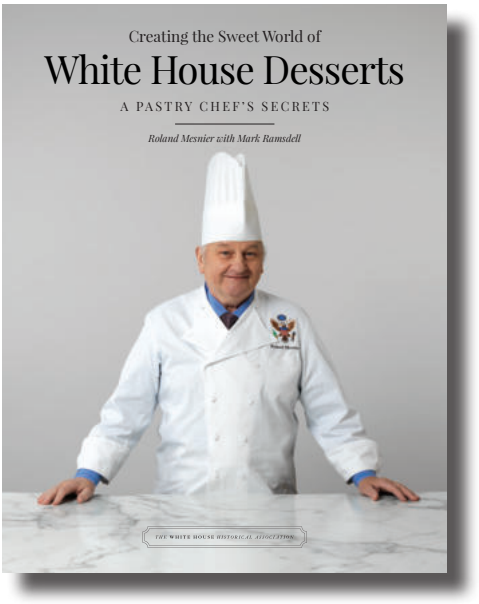
The wreckers haven't started yet, and until they do, the square can be saved.
— JACQUELINE KENNEDY

LaFayette Square was society . . . Beyond the Square the country began.
— HENRY ADAMS

256 pages • Casebound with Dust Jacket • 9" x 6" • #1482 • $29.95

TO ORDER: VISIT SHOP.WHITEHOUSEHISTORY.ORG

In this memoir, Roland Mesnier, pastry chef to five presidents, recalls the stunning desserts he created for White House State Dinners, formal events, and family celebrations. This new volume includes commentary and illustrations of Chef Mesnier's most splendid desserts. And, for the first time, he reveals the secrets of mold making and sugar work and shares his own recipes, all adapted for home kitchens. Of special interest are descriptions and illustrations of the dozens of molds now in the chef's collection. If there was no handy mold for, say, a Viking ship for a dessert for the king of Norway, or a carriage for the queen of England, the chef made one. His hand-tooled molds of wood, metal, and cardboard, as well as "found objects" that can serve as molds, will be inspiration for innovative amateurs. With *Creating a Sweet World of White House Desserts*, Roland Mesnier and his assistant Mark Ramsdell help make professional desserts possible for cooks of all abilities and offer insights into the challenges and accomplishments of the White House Pastry Shop.



Creating the Sweet World of White House Desserts

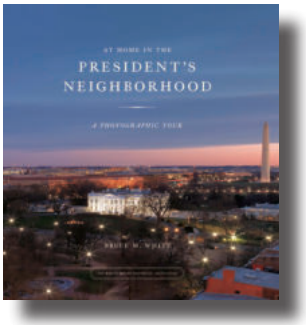
A Pastry Chef's Secrets

by Roland Mesnier
with Mark Ramsdell

Beautifully illustrated . . . the recipes offer kitchen cook friendly step-by-step instructions for delectable dishes that range from a Tea Sorbet to Nougat Glace. . . . Unreservedly recommended for both personal and professional cookbook collections.

—THE MIDWEST BOOK REVIEW

268 pages • Case Bound with Dust Jacket • 8½" x 11" • #1528 • $65



At Home in the President's Neighborhood: *A Photographic Tour*

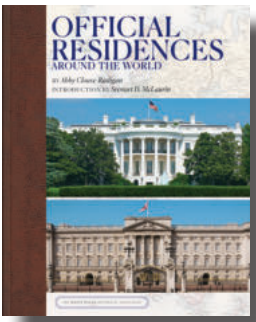
The White House neighborhood is one of the most historic neighborhoods in the nation. This title presents a modern view of the surrounding parks, historic homes and hotels, landmarks, government and commercial architecture, and city streets.

320 pages • Casebound with Dust Jacket • 11¼" Square • #234 • $49.95

Official White House China

Documenting more than two centuries, this book features the elegant china used for official White House entertaining and private dining. As this book conveys, assembled together, the presidential china in the White House comprises a museum collection of unequaled historic significance.

320 pages • Case bound with Dust Jacket • 9" x 11" • #258 • $49.95



Official Residences Around the World

Completed in 1800, the White House, like its European predecessors, would be a home, an office, and the setting for official functions. This book puts the White House in a global perspective by surveying the history of the official residences of some fifty nations.

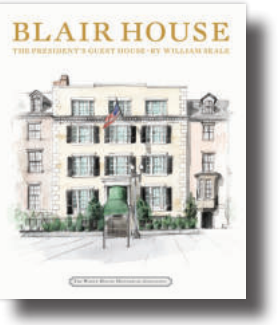
224 pages • Casebound with Leather Spine • 9" x 12" • #1387 • $75

A Garden for the President *A History of the White House Grounds*

Fully illustrated history of the relationship between the White House and its landscape; the public and private uses of the grounds in peace and wartime; and the cultivation of its trees, ornamental gardens, and conservatories.

300 pages • Casebound with Dust Jacket • 12" x 9" • #235 • $49.95

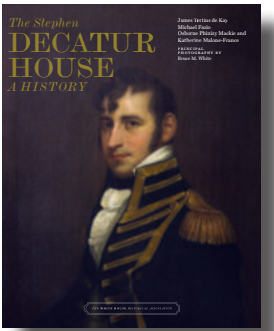
Blair House
The President's Guest House



Located across from the White House on Pennsylvania Avenue, Blair House has served as the President's Guest House since its purchase by the U.S. government during the Franklin D. Roosevelt administration.

296 pages • Casebound with Slipcase • 9" x 12" • #238 • $59.95

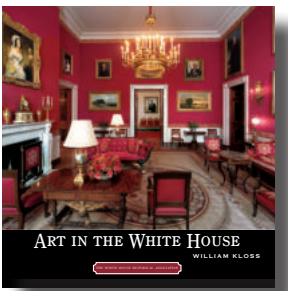
The Stephen Decatur House
A History



A hero of the Barbary Wars and the War of 1812, Commodore Stephen Decatur built a home "fit for fine entertaining" in 1818 within sight of the President's House. This volume chronicles the history of the house and its evolution from private home to historic site.

460 pages • Casebound with Dust Jacket • 9" x 11" • #1301 • $75

Art in the White House



A comprehensive catalog of the White House fine arts collection of more than 500 works by America's most celebrated artists. This third edition contains a supplement detailing acquisitions in the last ten years by America's most famous modern painters.

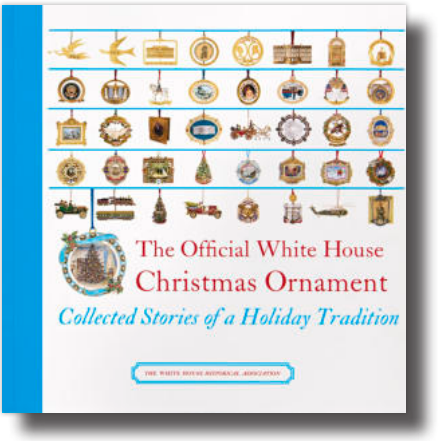
408 pages • Casebound with Dust Jacket • 10½" x 11" • #1408 • $60

Music at the White House
From the 18th to the 21st Centuries

Beginning with George Washington, this book details the musical ceremonies and performances at the White House as well as musical interests of the presidents and their families. Fully illustrated.

424 pages • Casebound with Dust Jacket • 9" x 11" • #614 • $75

The Official White House Christmas Ornament *Collected Stories of a Holiday Tradition*



Issued annually by the White House Historical Association, Official White House Christmas Ornaments are hung on millions of Christmas trees each December. This book includes the collected stories behind the design of each of the forty-one ornaments issued from 1981 to 2021.

96 pages • Quality Paper • 8.25" Square• #1839 • $16.95

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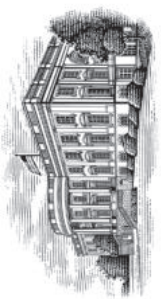

THE WHITE HOUSE
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